

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Wolfgang HEIL et al.

Serial No.: 09/757,688

Filed: January 11, 2001

For: DROSPIRENONE FOR HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY



Group Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: L.S. CHANNAVAJALA

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231 On: May 17, 2002
Name: John Sopb
Signature: [Signature]
Date: May 17, 2002

In response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2002, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows. It should be noted that while the Office Action indicates that it is Final, it was clarified during a telephone conversation of February 6, 2002, between Ms. Channavajjala and the undersigned that it should not have been Final and the finality will be withdrawn. Mistakenly, applicants' submission of a Claim to Priority on November 6, 2001, was taken as a response to the October 24, 2001, Office Action, although it clearly was not. Thus, the Office Action of January 17, 2002, is being responded to as if it was a non-final Office Action.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 78-80 and 84 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend claims 77, 86-90, 97, 100-102, 104-107, 112, 116-119 and 122-132 to read
as follows (a marked up version of the amended claims is in an appendix attached hereto):